SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1887

Concerning Amusements. Pessimists and cowards have one rule for every emergency-"Don't." Don't seek high station for it will make you a target of envy, jealousy, malice and evil-speaking. Don't desire wealth for it is the root of all evil. Treat your friend as if he may sometime become your enemy and your enemy as if he may become your friend. Be virtuous and you shall be happy. With a contented mind you may live with Diogenes in his tub and want nothing. There is some reason in these guesses at truth. Much disappointment comes to those who are overconfident. Evil lurks behind pleasures, friendships, honors and wealth Yet who shall deny them their value! Simon Stylitus may stand upon his column defying the elements, but the good sense of humanity judges that this is not the true life, and that after all, that iron-hearted man loved notor iety and hoped to be a martyr.

There is a measure of good in the world which may be enjoyed without loss, not only, but with positive advantage to mind, body, and spirit. Le fools prate of the dangers of friend ships, wise men will seek them. Le the narrow mind aim envious darts at the statesman, the philanthropist, the earnest worker; the world knows its friends. Money may be ill-used, yet wise hands it is a great blessing.

And of amusements? "If those who are the enemies of innocent amuse ments had the direction of the world, they would take away the Spring, and youth, the former from the year, the latter from the human life."

In general, all agree as to the value of amusements to the health of mind and body, yet with serious disagree ment as to what pleasures are innocent and free from temptations. Some stop at cards, others at dancing, bil liards, or the theatre. A few think the boy worthless who carries a gun, or straddles a bicycle, or sports a fish ing rod. Each would draw the line somewhere, judging his neighbors as cording to his own rules and traditions Reverting to the Bible, a distinction from the world is insisted upon, which is outward and visible, governing the manners; not inward, directing the

To the young, many of these distinctions are without a difference. Be cause an amusement may be carried to an unhealthy extense does not ap; parently require its entire relinquishment. One may play cards without gambling; or fish, hunt or drive without serious destruction of time-or

Whatsoever is innocent, healthful, invigorating to mind or body may be profitably employed for the full rounding out of the life of man. When creation's work was done, the sky, the earth, the sea was pronounced good for the enjoyment of man.

Thistles and thorns grow in abundance to demand patient toil for their destruction, but the beautiful flowers are at once a reward for labor and full of cheer to the human heart.

There is in the world time for play as well as for work. It may indeed, be better to wear out than to rust out, but it is still wiser to so use the good things of earth as to extend life to its natural limits of three score years and

Let the world laugh on! It is not well that it should always carry an aching heart! To play is as necessary as to work! An occassional romp will not hurt the most dignified of men Laughter is the best medicine!

The Post Office Appointment. The Republicans are certainly un der obligations to the Democratic party, for furnishing them with a specimen of Cleveland Civil Service Reform, for their inspection, close hand. It will be remembered by some perhaps, that during the campaign of '84, we predicted that the civil service reform plank of Cleaveland's platform. would turn out to be worm-eaten and rotten. During his administration, we have many times declared this prophecy fulfilled by his appointments but the examples given have been characterized by our opponents as

newspaper lies. Well, now we have an appointment which we can learn all about without outside help. The principle (if principle there was in it) which secured a reappointment for Mr. Pierson of the New York Post office, should have secured the reappointment of Mr. Dodd. But no, the pretense that the much banked upon New York appointment was actuated by consideration for the service was a sham, a snare, and a delusion like all the other hypocritical professions of extra high toned virtue

from the same source. It is indeed exasperating, that so many good and earnest men, should have allowed themselves to be deceived into entrusting the sheep to the take not, there is an amount of righteous wrath and indignation quietly accumulating in the breasts of these same good citizens, which bodes ill to the wolf in the near future. Outraged confidence is sometimes a silent but

always a dangerous enemy. Nothing could have better served to open wide the eyes of the independent voters of this town, to the real charac ter of the democratic administration and its attitude towards the civil sevthan the present post office appoint-

There is not the faintest shade of a shadow of the slightest pretense, that this appointment has been made for the benefit of the postal service of Bloomfield. Even the remotest approach towards the suggestion of such a thing, would excite the derisive laughter of the most stupid inhabitant. It would be a waste of good printer's ink and white paper to state why. It is to be hoped that a sense of the ridiculous, or if it might be hoped for, a decent regard for the ordinary com mon sense of the community, will spare us any further civil service drivel from the democratic side of the

But if the administration were determined upon making a change, why did not its shrewdness, if no higher motive found a place with it dictate an appointment, which would have commanded the warm approval of its more unpredudiced opponents; such a one as would have compelled the bulk of Republicanst to say, if any democrat, this one. Such a chance they had. A large element of the Democratic party of Bloomfield, and not a few good Republicans, seeing the change must come, joined in a petition that the widow of a prominent Democratic general be given the position. The in twelve or more colors, with every Congressional representive, the Post New Jersey democratic senator, were all urged to appoint or to have appointed the Union General's widow. No objection was made to her compara tive fitness, but it was all of no avail she has not been appointed. No disinterested on-looker, of moderate political knowledge supposed she would be. Men do not gather grapes of thorns or figs of thistles.

"Now is the Accepted Time." Whenever I meet a cyclist from any town or city which has a cycling club and upon inquiry find that he is not member of the same, somehow he loses caste in my eyes at once. Eith er one of two things must be the cause either he won't join, or the club won't let him do so. In the first case something is wrong with his head i he cannot see what he gains personally by being one of a club, and the harm he does the cause and the club by not giving them at least the support of his membership. In the second case something is wrong with him, and the local club won't admit him to their ranks, so that either way my poor im pression of him seems to have some cause in fact. It is useless for any rider to tell me he can't afford to be long to a club. If he can't, he really cannot afford to own and ride a machine, and he is indulging in a pastime that his means do not warrant. To me a club seems to be a miniature world, possessing in a microscopic sense all the virtues, vices, etc., etc. of the larger body. When you cross the threshold of the club-house the door swings closed behind you and shuts out the world and you become a factor in the miniature one within the club-house walls. You enter into a struggle, friendly and honorably conducted, the result of which on both sides is your benefit and the cause of cycling's progression. The divergence of opinion is caused only by the different standpoints from which the question is viewed, and whatever way it terminates no feeling remains personally between the two sides. If you can, then, my dear reader, join a club. It is a duty you owe yourself, the cause, and the local association of your place of residence, and believe me, when once you have known the pleasure of club life and associates you will thank me for these few words on the subject. - L. A. W. Bulletin.

History of Wall-paper. The printing of various textiles with dye colors and mordants is probably one of the most ancient of the arts and they were certainly used in Europe as early as the thirteenth century. But wall-paper did not come into use until the eighteenth century in Europe, although the Chinese at a much earlier date were familiar with paper decerations for walls.

The earliest European wall-papers appear to have been in flock, being imitations of fine old Florentine and

Genoese cut velvets. The making of wall-papers by machinery was an invention of the last e ntury, and up to that time they were made only by hand in small, square pieces, which were said to be natural ly difficult to hang, and disfigured the walls on account of the numerous

joints. Samples, however, of walls of this kind are still shown in New York, made about 100 years ago, in which the squares have been fastened together into lengths previous to hanging. Wall paper at this time was also cost ly and on that account but slowly superseded the older styles of mural decoration, such as wood panelling, tapes try, stamped leather and painted cloth.

About one hundred years ago manufacturer published a little book, giving many details of his methods and reduced copies of his designs The latter were not the flowing designs now so much in use, but were chiefly pictures, being landscapes, architectual scenes or statues treated as panels. They wore all printed in oil, with wooden blocks worked with a rolling press, apparently an invention of his own. The designs were in the worst possible taste, but were offered as a great improvement on the Chinese wall-paper, which he states were then

Professional art writers, who are too often more acquainted with the theory of art than practical application, re marks Beek's Journal of Decorative Art, usually, when speaking of wall papers, describe those made by ma chinery as being defective having a blurred appearance, due to the too rapid printing of colors. In regard to this objection, it should be known that the art of printing wall papers by machinery has made rapid strides. In deed, such perfection has been achieved, that there are probably few persons beside those engaged in the business, wholesale and retail, who can dis tinguish those made by hand from those manufactured by machinery. The present improved wall-paper printing machines now print a design revolution of the print roller, with per-Master General, the President, the fect registration and arrangement of colors. The perfecting of these m chines has been without doubt a matter of gradual development, but still the individual effort of Mr. Beck in this direction is fully recognized by those acquainted with the history of this art. His thorough appreciation of the harmonies of color and full regard for technical necessities of the richest and most beautiful effects at a comparatively small cost.

> A CCNGRESSMAN'S PHILOSOPHY Congressman Frank Lawler, of Chicago, is a quaint philosopher. One of his sayings that was much quoted in Washington gossip is the following: -"Gentlemen, you should not get impatient with nature. All things equalize—the rich man gets his ice in summer and the poor man gets his in

A LARGE SIZED TURKEY. Mr. Smith-"I see in the newspa pers that a Michigan man was tarred and feathered Sunday night."

Mrs. Smith-" Dear me! What did they treat the poor fellow that Mr. Smith-"I don't know. I sup-

pose some of the boys got up a raffle and wanted him for a prize turkey."

AN ARTISTIC CROOK. She (at a ball)--" How graceful y that foreign-looking gentlemen dances, and how genteelly he crooks his little finger in the air.'

He-" Yes he gets that crook from nis profession." She-" Is he an artist?"

He-" Yes, a tonsorial artist."

A LOCAL HIT. Friend-"How is your paper com Editor-" First rate."

"I suppose it abounds in local hits?" "Yes; we had a local hit last week. He was hit on the nose for writing up a prominent citizen."

A DEAD SHOT. Amateur Sportsman-" What did I bring down, Pat?" Pat-" Yer own dog, sur; blew his

head all off!" A. S.—" Where's the bird?" Pat-" Picking at ther dog, sur."

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